

DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

Hawai'i's state parks provide opportunities to experience extraordinary natural and cultural resources, and to enjoy varied, and often unequalled recreational opportunities.

Forested valleys with plunging waterfalls, sandy beaches and seaside cliffs, snow-covered peaks and scenic viewpoints, and unique cultural and historic sites, are made accessible, protected, and interpreted for all, through Hawai'i's State Park system. In Hawai'i's state parks, the resident and visitor alike, can hike, camp, picnic, sunbathe and swim, dive and snorkel, fish, surf and kayak. At many



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state parks, the visitor will also learn about native Hawaiian culture and history through interpretive signage and programs.

The Division of State Parks is responsible for the operation and maintenance of 55 park sites open to the public on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i and Moloka'i, plus 13 other sites in which State Parks has an interest. These sites cover a grand total of 26,814 acres. State parks range in size from less than one acre to over 6,000 acres, and include wilderness and historical parks, recreation areas and recreation piers, waysides, monuments, and underwater parks. A number of these sites are also designated as National Natural Landmarks and National Historic Landmarks. Most facilities are operated and maintained by State Park employees; however several parks are partially operated by concessionaires who provide lodging, picnic pavilions or boat tours.

While park user fees support the State Park Interpretive Program, limited State financial resources have required, in recent years, that park maintenance focus on park user health and safety. At park sites that have become major tourist destinations, such as Diamond Head State Monument, protection of

resources and maintenance of a quality environment and park experience have become priorities, and continue to be a challenge.

The Hawai'i State Parks mission is to protect and interpret Hawai'i's natural and cultural heritage of statewide, and national significance, and to provide recreational opportunities within park areas. This is accomplished by the three major state park programs: Park Administration; Park Development and Operation; and Park Interpretation.

HIGHLIGHTS

An update of the 1979 Diamond Head State Monument master plan was initiated in January 1998, to address increased visitor use and the need for a visitor center, as well as the management of endangered plants, fragile soils, and an occasional wetland in the crater.

In June 1998, the division conducted public hearings on the revision of State Park rules to allow charging fees for camping and parking at state parks, and for access to Diamond Head State Monument, O'ahu. Additionally, public hearings were conducted during this period to create rules for the "Park Acquisition Trust Fund" statute of 1997.

Community-State Parks partnerships continue to provide essential assistance. On the island of Kaua'i, the Nā Pali Coast 'Ohana continued its volunteer effort to improve the Nā Pali Coast State Park and to raise community awareness and involvement by undertaking trail maintenance and reconstruction, removal of noxious weeds and rubbish, and outplanting native plant species. On the island of Hawai'i, the community-based Kekaha Kai State Park Task Force completed its planning work in July 1996, and then took on a new mission, and a new name - "Friends of Mahai'ula at Kekaha Kai State Park." The Friends raised over \$8,000 for the park and undertook two community workdays. Community members collected and hauled more than 10.5 tons of debris from the park, and then painted the old Magoon Estate family home, which is destined to become the park's marine and cultural education center.

Also in 1998, at the Sand Island State Recreation Area, a joint government-union-private partnership, consisting of the Governor's Office, DLNR, Department of Transportation, Department of Accounting and General Services, the Hawai'i AFL-CIO Operating Engineers Local 3



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and Kimura International, Inc., built six Little League baseball fields, at minimal government expense. Materials and labor were donated, and the first tournament held on July 3-5.

The Park Interpretive Program has been expanded with the establishment of a new “ambassador” position at Diamond Head State Monument. More than a million visitors a year visit the extinct volcanic crater, one of Hawai‘i’s most recognized natural resources. The park ambassador position is critical for insuring good management and sustainability of this world-famous attraction. By sharing the natural and cultural history of O‘ahu’s most famous landmark with park visitors, the ambassador will seek to heighten visitor awareness about the fragile nature of the resources in the crater, and encourage visitors to treat the area with respect. Two other ambassadors, one at Kekaha Kai State Park in Kona, Hawai‘i and the other at Nā Pali Coast State Park on Kaua‘i, continue in their efforts to work with local communities and visitors on the conservation, preservation, and protection of the special natural and cultural resources within these wilderness parks.

The Interpretive Program has also expanded into two new areas of program development. One area is the construction of shelters at selected state parks to house interpretive exhibits and displays which will promote visitor awareness and understanding of the resources, the history, and the past environment of the park area. Design for such facilities has been completed for Diamond Head State Monument, O‘ahu and Lapakahi State Historical Park in North Kohala on the island of Hawai‘i.

The other new activity is conducting visitor surveys to better understand visitor needs and interests that will help DLNR develop meaningful interpretive programs in the parks. Surveys will also give feedback on interpretive programs already in place, and indicate helpful changes for greater visitor enjoyment. Visitor surveys have been initiated at Diamond Head State Monument and Nu‘uanu Pali State Wayside on O‘ahu, and there are plans to expand these surveys to other high visitation parks where interpretive devices are being planned.

In February 1998, the state of Hawai‘i began the process to

acquire 315 acres of Queen’s Beach on the East Honolulu Ka Iwi shoreline. With this action, the Ka Iwi coast is now several steps closer to joining Kaua‘i’s Nā Pali Coast, Big Island’s Kekaha Kai, Maui’s Mākena and O‘ahu’s Ka‘ena Point as wilderness areas to be preserved in their natural state, protected from development in perpetuity.

PARK ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.

The Park Administration Program enhances park system effectiveness and efficiency by formulating overall policies and developing long range system goals, directing operations and personnel, and providing administrative and support services. Major activities include: general administration, planning, contract administration, staff support services for State Park projects, project review for impact on outdoor recreation resources and opportunities, State Park reservation system management, collection of park system data and preparation, and adoption and implementation of State Park system rules.



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In addition, the State Recreational Planning Program is administered by the Division. This program coordinates the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program which benefits state and county parks by funding acquisition, and development of outdoor recreation projects throughout the state of Hawai'i. The program also coordinates the development of a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation planning program.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1996-97.

- Published the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, qualifying the state for continuous receipt of federal grants for outdoor recreation projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 88-758. Through this program, the State of Hawai'i and the four counties have received more than \$30 million in federal grants since inception of the program in 1965.
- Established a State Parks web site to provide information on Hawai'i's state parks to a worldwide audience.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1997-98.

- Drafted and held public hearings on rules to allow fees for camping, parking and entry to Diamond Head State Monument.
- Drafted and held public hearings on rules for the "Park Acquisition Trust Fund".
- Drafted revisions to the Department's "First Amendment" rules.
- Initiated a long-term, system-wide park visitor count and survey program to provide better data for park planning and development, repair and maintenance, and daily park operation.

PARK DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program enriches the leisure time of Hawai'i's residents and visitors of all ages, by acquiring park lands, preparing park plans, and developing and managing state parks with heritage and outdoor recreation values throughout the state.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1996-97.

- Completed planning for Kekaha Kai State Park with the assistance of the community-based task

force. Hired a consultant to prepare an overall conceptual plan for the park, and a development plan and environmental impact statement for the Mahai'ula section of this 1,642 acre coastal park.

- Completed archaeological reconnaissance survey at Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawai'i.
- Completed conceptual plan for Kealahou Bay State Historical Park, Hawai'i, an historically significant site connected to key people and events in Hawai'i's history.
- Completed construction of a gravity sewer, force main and a sewer pump station for Kōke'e State Park, Kaua'i.
- Developed an exploratory well for the domestic water system for Kōke'e State Park, Kaua'i.
- Completed construction of a 200,000 gallon water tank for Kōke'e State Park, Kaua'i.
- Completed construction of a handicap walkway to Waimea Canyon State Park lookout, Kaua'i.
- Completed construction of a 50,000 gallon water tank for Hāpuna Beach State Recreation Area, Hawai'i.
- Completed construction of addition to Hāpuna Beach State



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Recreation Area park maintenance building, Hawai'i.

- Completed clearing and grubbing of 'Aiea Bay State Recreation Area on the shores of Pearl Harbor, O'ahu.
- Completed installation of guardrail barriers and gates in the Mālaekahana State Recreation Area, Phase I area, O'ahu.
- Completed construction of irrigation system improvements for Sand Island State Recreation Area, O'ahu.
- Completed demolition of deteriorating, unused structures on the outside of Diamond Head Crater, and graded and improved drainage at roads and trails within the Crater with the assistance of the Hawai'i National Guard and a visiting Oregon National Guard contingent.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 1997-98.

- Initiated planning for Diamond Head State Monument, where more than 1 million visitors each year enjoy Diamond Head crater's resources, including summit hikes with rewarding views of Honolulu and O'ahu's southern coastline.
- Initiated acquisition of the land for the proposed 1,265 acre Ka

Iwi Scenic Shoreline, at East Honolulu, O'ahu in cooperation with the Department of the Attorney General and the Department of Transportation.

- Completed the conceptual plan for the Kekaha Kai State Park, a 1,642 acre coastal park rich in natural beauty, cultural resources, coastal and ocean recreation, and the future home of a department marine education and interpretive center in Kona, Hawai'i.
- Completed Kekaha Wai 'Ole O Na Kona, an archival and historical research report with oral history interviews with kūpuna, under the ongoing Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawai'i planning contract.
- Completed the Hāpuna Beach State Recreation Area Expansion Plan, designed to increase the park acreage from 62 acres to 784 acres and include picnic areas with comfort stations, family and organized group camping areas, hiking trails, shoreline paths, parking areas, improved access to Wailea Bay, and potential development of an 18-hole golf course should private investor/developers pursue this option.
- Continued preparation of the development plan and environ-

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mental impact statement for the Mahai'ula Section of Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawai'i.

- Initiated preparation of a development plan for the Nāpō'opo'o section of the Kealahou Bay State Historical Park, Hawai'i.
- Completed Shoreline Recreation Study for proposed Kīholo Bay State Park, Hawai'i.
- Completed construction of a roadway, parking lot, comfort station, picnic tables and landscaping improvements for 'Aiea Bay State Recreation Area, a new park located along the Pearl Harbor shoreline, O'ahu.

PARK INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The 'Āina Ho'omalū, or Park Interpretive Program seeks to heighten awareness and understanding of Hawai'i's unique natural and cultural heritage and to encourage recreational opportunities that promote the management and protection of these resources by visitors to DLNR's state park system.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1996-97.

- Designed a new, updated State Parks brochure.

- Initiated contract to ensure that the State Parks reservation system, known as SPRVIS (State Parks Reservation and Visitor Information System) is Year 2000 compliant and ready to accept reservations for dates beyond December 31, 1999.
- Installed interpretive signs at 'Iao Valley State Park, Maui.
- Organized and sponsored the third annual Hawai'i Archaeology Week.
- Restored Pihana Heiau, Haleki'i-Pihana Heiau State Monument, Maui.
- Developed four (4) new curatorship programs: 'Iao Valley State Park and Haleki'i-Pihana Heiau State Monument, Maui and Pu'u O Mahuka Heiau and Kukaniloko Birthstones State Monument, O'ahu.
- Initiated restoration of lo'i and the Huilua Fishpond at Kahana Valley State Park, O'ahu.
- Established Kahana Advisory Committee to assist in further development and expansion of the interpretive program with the 31 lessee families at Kahana Valley State Park, O'ahu.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1997-98.

- Installed interpretive signs at Nu'uuanu Pali State Wayside, O'ahu.

- Organized and sponsored Hawai'i Archaeology Week 1998 (4th Annual).
- Organized and sponsored workshop for Curatorship Program held at Kōke'e State Park, Kaua'i.
- Established interpretive park coordinator (ambassador) position at Diamond Head State Monument.
- Installed interpretive signs at Hikina'akalā Heiau, Wailua River State Park, Kaua'i.
- Prepared interim interpretive plan for Diamond Head State Monument, O'ahu.
- Designed interpretive shelters at Diamond Head State Monument, O'ahu and Lapakahi State Historical Park, North Kohala, Hawai'i.
- Designed brochure for Diamond Head State Monument, O'ahu.
- At Kahana Valley State Park, lessee families have completed 16 homes and moved in to their homes; 7 lessee families have partially completed construction of their homes and will move in to their homes in the near future; 5 families have construction materials on site, and 3 families have not yet begun to initiate construction of their homes.

PROJECT	NAME	YEAR ESTABLISHED 7	TOTAL ACREAGE	DEVELOPED ACREAGE	RECREATION VISITS (1000) 1
EXISTING STATE PARKS:					
HAWAII					
F-35	Akaka Falls State Park	1952	65.4	6.0	664
F-75	Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area	1967	63.6 4	21.5	1146
F-53	Kalōpā State Recreation Area	1967	100.0 3	18.0	114
F-14	Kealahou Bay State Historical Park	1967	219.0	1.8	—
	(Ka'awaloa Section)	(1971)	(145.0)	(—)	(—) 9
	(Napō'opo'o Section)	(1967)	(74.0)	(1.8)	(—)
H-87	Kekaha Kai State Park (Kona Coast)	1995	1642.5 14	5.0	— 9
H-18	Keolōnāhihi State Historical Park	1980	12.0	—	— 10
F-66	Kilauea State Recreation Area	1966	7.3 15	0.5	—
H-31	Kohala Historical Sites State Monument	1978	6.8	3.7	—
	(Kamehameha I Birthsite Section)	(1978)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(—) 8
	(Kukuipahu Heiau Section)	(1988)	(3.1)	(—)	(—) 10
	(Mo'okini Heiau Section)	(1979)	(3.2)	(3.2)	(—) 8
F-13	Lapakahi State Historical Park	1973	262.0	53.3	—
F-34	Lava Tree State Monument	1956	17.1	10.0	115
F-77	MacKenzie State Recreation Area	1955	13.1	6.0	104
F-69	Manukā State Wayside	1952	13.4	8.0	196
F-64	Mauna Kea State Recreation Area	1962	20.5 3	17.5	210
H-47	Old Kona Airport State Recreation Area	1976	103.7 13	20.4	1217
F-58	Wailoa River State Recreation Area	1954	131.9	97.7	589
	(Wailoa Center)	(1968)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(18)
	(Wailoa)	(1954)	(127.9)	(93.7)	(571)
F-33	Wailuku River State Park	1967	16.3 3	3.5	904
	(Boiling Pots Section)	(1967)	(6.0)	(2.0)	(162)
	(Rainbow Falls Section)	(1967)	(10.3)	(1.5)	(742)
MAUI					
F-21	Halekī'i-Pihana Heiau State Monument	1962	10.2	3.5	7
F-32	'Iao Valley State Monument	1961	6.2	5.9	449
H-24	Kanekaula Heiau State Park Reserve	1984	0.7	—	— 10
F-59	Kaunahine State Wayside	1952	7.8	3.5	372
F-73	Makena State Park	1971	165.8	2.0	211
F-67	Polipoli Spring State Recreation Area	1957	10.0 3	2.0	8
F-59	Pua'a Ka'a State Wayside	1954	5.0 3	2.5	349
F-55	Waiānapanapa State Park	1966	125.0 4	18.0	498
F-59	Wailua Valley State Wayside	1952	1.5	0.5	37
MOLOKAI					
F-60	Pala'au State Park	1955	233.7	10.0	36
OAHU					
F-83	'Aiea Bay State Recreation	1981	6.0	2.1	— 9
F-37	Diamond Head State Monument	1962	493.4	8.0	1000
F-38	Hanauma Bay State Underwater Park	1969	101.0	—	— 8
F-27	He'eia State Park	1977	18.5	8.0	62.0
F-11	'Iolani Palace State Monument	1967	11.0	11.0	74 2
F-72	Ka'ena Point State Park	1978	1462.8 4	7.5	100.0 12
	(Leeward Section)	(1978)	(1152.7)	(7.5)	(100.0) 12
	(Windward Section)	(—)	(310.1)	(—)	(—) 9

[FOOTNOTES INDICATED IN BOLD RED TYPE]

PROJECT	NAME	YEAR ESTABLISHED	TOTAL ACREAGE	DEVELOPED ACREAGE	RECREATION VISITS (1000)	
OAHU, CONTINUED						
F-57	Kahana Valley State Park	1970	5,256.5	26.0	88.0	
	(Kahana Valley)	(1970)	(5,248.2)	(20.0)	(64)	
	(Kahana Beach)	(1992)	(8.3)	(6.0)	(24)	
F-48	Keaiwa Heiau State Recreation Area	1955	384.5	22.0	291	
F-29	Kukanihiko Birthstones State Monument	1992	5.0	—	—	9
F-40	La'ie Point State Wayside	1992	1.4	—	—	
H-68	Makapu'u Point State Wayside	1987	38.2	1.0	—	9
H-70	Mālaekahana State Recreation Area	1977	110.0	46.5	126	
	(Kahuku Section)	(1983)	(36.3)	(1.5)	(—)	8
	(Kalanai Point Section)	(1977)	(73.7)	(45.0)	(126)	
F-30	Nu'uuanu Pali State Wayside	1964	3.0	3.0	566	3
F-23	Pu'u O Mahuka Heiau State Monument	1962	5.7	3.5	2	
F-51	Pu'u 'Ualaka'a State Wayside	1957	50.0	12.0	58	3
F-15	Royal Mausoleum State Monument	1968	10.0	3.0	115	
	(Kapena Falls Reserve Section)	(1976)	(6.7)	(—)	(—)	9
	(Royal Mausoleum Section)	(1968)	(3.3)	(3.0)	(115)	
H-45	Sacred Falls State Park	1996	1,375.9	10.0	56	
F-70	Sand Island State Recreation Area	1970	140.0	83.0	296	
F-24	Ulu Po Heiau State Monument	1954	1.4	1.2	2	
F-61	Wa'ahila Ridge State Recreation Area	1967	49.9	7.0	91	
F-50	Wahiawa Freshwater State Recreation Area	1978	65.9	5.0	71	
KAUAI						
F-09	Ahukini State Recreation Pier	1978	1.0	0.9	107	
F-74	Hā'ena State Park	1972	65.7	2.0	663	
F-46	Kōke'e State Park	1952	4,345.0	55.0	304	
F-80	Nā Pali Coast State Park	1962	6,175.0	4.0	80	
F-78	Polihale State Park	1967	137.7	10.0	138	4
F-12	Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park	1972	17.3	10.0	75	
F-54	Wailua River State Park	1954	1,093.0	37.4	1,144	
	(Fern Grotto Section)	(1954)	(14.6)	(5.0)	(254)	
	(Kaumuali'i Section)	(1962)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(138)	
	(Hikina'akalā Heiau Section)	(1962)	(5.2)	(4.0)	(—)	
	(Marina Section)	(1962)	(11.4)	(15.4)	(605)	
	(Poliahu Section)	(1962)	(139.6)	(9.0)	(147)	
	(Wailua River Reserve Section)	(1956)	(908.7)	(—)	(—)	
	(Malae Heiau)	(1994)	(9.5)	(—)	(—)	
F-39	Waimea Canyon State Park	1952	1,866.4	10.0	345	
F-82	Waimea State Recreation Pier	1974	2.3	1.3	63	
Total State Parks — 56			26,554.0	710.15		

[FOOTNOTES INDICATED IN BOLD RED TYPE]

PROJECT	NAME	YEAR ESTABLISHED 7	TOTAL ACREAGE	DEVELOPED ACREAGE	RECREATION VISITS (1000) 1
OTHER AREAS OF STATE PARK INTEREST:					
HAWAI'I					
F-58	Wailoa River State Recreation Area Happiness Garden	1978	2.3	2.3	— 11
O'AHU					
H-21	DAV Ke'ehi Lagoon Memorial	1981	10.8	10.8	— 9
F-51	Hawai'i Nature Center	1981	1.0 5	1.0	39
H-73	Kewalo Basin Park	1981	3.0 5	3.0	— 9
H-62	Ke'ehi Lagoon Landfill	1981	10.9 5	—	— 10
H-73	Kaka'ako Waterfront Park	1978	30.5 5	30.0	— 8
H-92	Kalihi Valley	1992	99.8	—	— 9
F-51	Lower Makiki	1979	0.8	0.8	— 9
F-18	State Capitol Grounds	1969	10.0 5	10.0	— 9
H-29	Waimano Gulch State Park Reserve	1980	35.9	—	— 10
F-25	Washington Place	1966	3.1 5	3.1	— 10
KAUAI'					
F-52	Wahiawa Mauka State Park Reserve	1968	52.3	—	— 10
Total Other Areas of State Park Interest – 12			260.4	61.0	
GRAND TOTAL – 68			26,814.4	771.15	

[FOOTNOTES INDICATED IN BOLD RED TYPE]

FOOTNOTES:

- 1** Visits = (number of vehicles) x (occupants) or the number of actual visits, depending on the facility. One visitor may account for more than one visit.
- 2** Number of visits for 'Iolani Palace Tours only. Does not include grounds.
- 3** Acquired jurisdiction; no definite boundaries yet established; acreage is estimated.
- 4** Acquired jurisdiction of additions; new boundaries not yet established; acreage is estimated.
- 5** Acquired responsibility; acreage is estimate only.
- 6** No current data available — rough estimate only.
- 7** The year State Parks Division acquired area, jurisdiction and/or responsibility for the area.
- 8** Area is opened to the public — no recreation visit counts available (these are areas that are listed in the published Guide to Hawai'i's State Parks).
- 9** Area is used by the public — no recreation visit counts available (these are areas that are listed in the published Guide to Hawai'i's State Parks).
- 10** Area is not open to the public.
- 11** Discontinued recreation visit count at Happiness Garden (Wailoa River State Recreation Area, Hawai'i) as of November, 1984. Area has been under General Lease to a non-profit group from April, 1982.
- 12** Includes recreation visit counts for Keawaula and Makua sections. No separate counts available.
- 13** A 34.8 acre parcel of Old Kona Airport State Recreation Area is leased out to the County of Hawai'i for their Kailua Park.
- 14** Park name changed; Kona Coast S.P. changed to Kekaha Kai S.P. 4/97.
- 15** Kilauea S.R.A. transferred to Division of Forestry and Wildlife 1/2/97.